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Dear Lou:

It will be fun to see you at Ann Arbor: I hope you and Alan can make it. There has been a slight change of plan. Sol and Preer will be on the first week, Ryan and I the second (July 19-23).

As to the ms., you should by all means send it in for publication, preferably to J. Bact. [Probably I will not get it for review; my critical comments are presented now].

On the whole, it is a good job of writing, but it loses in snappiness from too much turgor, especially in the introduction and particularly the discussion. Most of that can afford to be cut right out. The final section on the evolutionary role of phage especially! On the other hand, there are places where the experiments are not given in enough detail, particularly the conditions of the single burst experiments. What were the actual counts of bacteria, phage etc. What was medium, temperature, aeration?, inoculum etc. I realize this may not have been uniform in each experiment, but this should be explicitly stated. This is important because Anderson described host modification in single plaque cycles, which is hardly rigorous evidence of phenotypic modification!

Some other minutiae:

Table 1: Serotype for antigenic

p. 10 Are the different Xyl-, Ara- genetically homologous?

Figure 3. Not essential. Information is adequately conveyed numerically in text.

p12. and elsewhere. Speaking purist ically, a cell is not transduced; a character or more precisely a genetic factor is transduced from one cell to another. I suggested transformed or altered, or, if you have the temerity, transinduced for the cell altered by transduction.

p.18 If you keep any of this, Schlesinger says you've either misconstrued him or he, Zinder and Lederberg. "Passive ~~transfer~~ vector" means only that the vegetative phage itself is not the genetic material (contra Groman etc). But in the absence of any new experimental data, this paper does not seem the most appropriate place for this discussion. If you wish, Norton's review (CSH '53) does take up these points adequately. [In coli, transduction of Gal by lambda probably does reflect the Gal-Lp linkage].

Have you seen Iseki's latest (transduction [sic] in group B)? Proc Jap Acad 30:143.